

# NEWS FROM ED MARKEY

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**Massachusetts Seventh District**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ENERGY DEPARTMENT APPROVED 3,100 NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS TO NORTH KOREA**

***Bush Admin. Still Hasn't Revoked Authorization for Westinghouse to Transfer Additional  
Nuclear Technology to Kim Jong Il***

**WASHINGTON, D.C.:** Representative Edward J. Markey (D-MA), Co-Chair of the Bipartisan Nonproliferation Task Force and a senior Democratic Member of the Homeland Security Committee, today released a letter from DOE Secretary Spencer Abraham revealing that the Department of Energy (DOE) has approved 3,100 nuclear technology transfers to North Korea, 300 of which were actually transferred to that country. The Abraham letter also indicates that the Bush Administration thus far has failed to either suspend or revoke authorizations granted to transfer nuclear technology to North Korea.

"These documents show that the Bush policy on North Korea has been one of rhetorical hostility and policy placidity," said Rep. Markey. "While Bush Administration officials have trashed the Clinton Administration's approach to North Korea, the fact is that they continued the same ill-conceived policy of offering Kim Jong Il access to nuclear technology in the hope of weaning him from his nuclear weapons program."

"The Bush Administration had a chance to reverse this policy in 2001, and they failed to do so. All they succeeded in doing is antagonizing the North Koreans, frightening the South Koreans, and destabilizing the region. Today, we are reaping the consequences of their colossal policy failure."

Rep. Markey, who has long opposed nuclear cooperation with North Korea, wrote the Department last October 22<sup>nd</sup> to request information on specific DOE authorizations granted for such transfers. In a March 4, 2003 response, DOE Secretary Abraham revealed that:

- "The nuclear reactors that South Korea had agreed to build for North Korea were based on U.S. origin technology provided by Westinghouse."
- Under U.S. law, any transfer of this reactor technology requires U.S. consent.
- Westinghouse received an authorization for nuclear technology transfers in May 1996 for five years, and "In May 2001, the authorization was extended for another five years."
- "To date, approximately 3,200 documents have been reviewed for export control concerns. Of these, roughly 3,100 were approved for release, with the stipulation that they only be transferred when needed, and the balance denied. *Roughly 300 documents have been transferred to North Korea.*" (emphasis added)
- The technical transfers covered under these authorizations include: 1) Preliminary Safety Analysis Report (PSAR) Responses; 2) Topical Reports; 3) Training Documents; 4) Quality Assurance Documents; 5) Construction Documents, and 6) KEDO (Korean Economic Development Organization) Documents.

- In light of North Korea's violations of its non-proliferation obligations, the Administration "is now considering appropriate courses of action, possibly to include suspension or revocation of the May 2001 authorization."

Rep. Markey noted, "At a hearing in the Energy Committee yesterday I asked a senior DOE official why they had not already revoked all authorizations to ship nuclear technology to North Korea, in light of Kim Jong Il's decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and embark on a mad dash to build a nuclear arsenal. He said the matter was under consideration – the same answer the Administration has been giving since October."

"Clearly, the Bush Administration's North Korea policy has lost focus, lacks purpose, and is inadequate for the nuclear crisis at hand. The President needs to immediately and permanently halt all nuclear cooperation with North Korea, go to the U.N. Security Council to seek a resolution condemning North Korea and providing for imposition of sanctions, while at the same time offering to talk to the North Koreans about ways of peacefully resolving this crisis."

Copies of Rep. Markey's correspondence with DOE on this subject can be found at [http://www.house.gov/markey/iss\\_nonproliferation\\_foraffairs.htm](http://www.house.gov/markey/iss_nonproliferation_foraffairs.htm)

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